

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1-21 (Canceled)
22. (New) A gold-based composition on a support based on at least one cerium oxide, having a halogen content expressed by the halogen/gold molar ratio equal to or lower than 0.04 and wherein the gold is present in the form of particles equal to or lower than 10 nm in size.
23. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the halogen content is equal to or lower than 0.025 and optionally equal to or lower than 0.01.
24. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the gold is present in the form of particles equal to or lower than 3 nm in size.
25. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the halogen is chlorine.
26. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the gold content is equal to or lower than 5%, optionally equal to or lower than 1%.
27. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the support is based on a cerium oxide and on a zirconium oxide, optionally in a cerium/zirconium atomic proportion of at least 1.

28. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the support is based on a cerium oxide and on a zirconium oxide and on at least one oxide which is scandium oxide or oxides of rare earth elements other than cerium.
29. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the support is based on a cerium oxide and on a praseodymium oxide; or on a cerium oxide and on at least one oxide of another element which is bismuth or tin; or based on a cerium oxide and on titanium oxide.
30. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 22, further comprising at least one other metal element which is silver, platinum, palladium or copper.
31. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 30, wherein the other abovementioned metal element is present in a quantity equal to or lower than 400%, optionally between 5% and 50%, compared with the gold.
32. A method for preparing a composition as defined in claim 22, comprising the following steps:
- a) contacting a compound based on cerium oxide with a gold-halide-based compound and, optionally, a compound based on silver, platinum, palladium or copper,
 - b) forming a suspension of these compounds in a medium, the pH of the medium thereby formed being fixed at a value of at least 8;
 - c) separating the solid from the reaction medium of step b); and
 - d) washing the solid with a basic solution.
33. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein in step c) the pH of the medium formed is maintained at the value of at least 8 during the formation of the

suspension of the compound based on cerium oxide and of the gold-halide-based compound and, optionally, of the compound based on silver, platinum, palladium or copper, by the addition of a basic compound.

34. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the solid obtained in step b) is washed with a basic solution with a pH of at least 8, optionally of at least 9.

35. A method for preparing a composition as defined in claim 22, comprising the following steps:

a) depositing gold and, if applicable, silver, platinum, palladium or on a compound based on cerium oxide by impregnation or by ion exchange; and

b) washing the solid issuing from the preceding step a) with a basic solution with a pH of at least 10.

35. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the solid obtained, before or after step d), is further subjected to a reducing treatment.

36. (New) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein the reducing treatment takes place with a reducing gas at a temperature not higher than 200°C, optionally not higher than 180°C.

37. (New) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein the solid obtained after step d) and optionally after the reducing treatment is subjected to a calcination at a temperature not higher than 250°C.

38. A method for purifying air, this air containing carbon monoxide, ethylene, aldehyde, amine, mercaptan, ozone, a volatile organic compound, an atmospheric

Docket Number RAN04001
Preliminary Amendment
PCT application date February 17, 2005

pollutant or a malodorous compound, comprising the step of contacting said air with a composition as defined in claim 22.

39. A cigarette filter, comprising a composition as defined in claim 22.